

A GREENKEEPER'S LETTER TO HIS CHAIRMAN

Dear Boss,

This being almost the end of our fiscal year, it is time we began work on our budget for 1951. As you will recall, last year we prepared an itemized estimated expense sheet for the coming year explaining with notes, unusual expenditures of items which exceeded those of the year before. When the sheet was ready you called a meeting of the Green Committee, which I also attended, inviting the President and Treasurer of the Club to be present. The items were carefully gone over and any necessary changes made. With the approval of the Committee and Treasurer, it was then presented to the Board at their next meeting and being accepted as drawn up, it became our budget for the coming year. In this manner every expenditure was accounted for in advance and there was no necessity for further requests for appropriations.

In regard to the suggestion that more trees and shrubs be planted on the course and fairway lined with trees, I would advise that more serious thought be given to the idea, taking into consideration the experience of other golf courses. I visited several courses this Summer which were so thickly planted that the circulation of air on fairways, tees and greens was cut off, making it not only uncomfortable for the golfer on hot days, but also difficult to maintain good turf. If tees are to be screened with shrubs, they should be planted far enough away so as not to interfere with the maintenance of the turf. If trees are planted they should largely be in groups with plenty of room for circulation of air. The group which we are planning between the 4th and 14th fairways should be of several different varieties. Cottonwoods and poplars or other fast growing trees are not desirable on the golf course due to their root habits and early shedding of leaves in the fall. Elms are menaced with a blight which has been spreading over the country and their use curtailed. Soft maples are not good owing to their shallow root system and shedding of seeds in the fall on putting greens. The thornless honey locust has been recommended as a tree for golf course use, its leaves being small and the foliage not too dense.

Soon it will be time to treat our greens and tees for the prevention of snow mold. There are a number of methods of doing this but I think the best way is to go out late in the Fall and spray about 4 pounds of Tersan to a 5,000 sq. ft. green. This is best done in two applications, one just before the water system is drained and the other the 1st of December. It takes about 100 pounds to treat our greens alone, but believe me it is good insurance when I think back on all the grief we had with snow mold in the past. A light application of lime to the greens is also beneficial not only for snow mold control, but the prevention of dollar spot and brown patch in the summer months.

Hoping this covers some of the more important things on our minds at this time, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Your Greenkeeping Superintendent.

ANNUAL MIDWEST ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Park Ridge Country Club and Bert Rost, Sup't., were hosts to the members and guests of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents on Oct. 2nd, the occasion being the Annual Golf Tournament. Bert provided a well groomed golf course and the table set for the buffet dinner was really a gourmet's delight. The Tournament Chairman, Frank Dinelli, extended himself beyond imagination in providing an array of worthwhile prizes which included such items as 17 jewel wrist watches, portable radio, Foot Joy golf shoes, wind breaker, sport shirts, sweaters to name just a few.

Winners in class "A" were, in the order of their appearance, Stan Arendt, Mel Warneke, Bill Seaili, Jock McIntosh and Bill Stupple.

Ray Gerber, Charley Shiley, Ed Wolenberg, Chuck Daugherty and Jerry Spotswood copped off the prizes in class "B".

The following were winners in the blind bogey: Paul Connors, J. Transier, Frank Weidel Charlie Carr and J. Buchen.

The Putting Contest was won by Alex Pirie with Fred Halloran a close second. Consolation putter was Billy Smith.

The following guests were prize winners; Dan Christianson, C. Vann and A. J. Peterson.

Two members who had the most fun, at least took the most strokes, were Roy Chaplin and Frank Mastroleo.

EMIL MASHIE WINS N.G.S.A. TOURNAMENT AT LANSING

On Sept. 18th and 19th The Lansing Country Club of Lansing, Michigan was host to one of the finest Tournaments ever held by the N.G.S.A. Top honors were won by Emil Mashie of Onwentsia C. C., Lake Forest, Ill., with a score of 75, 71—146. The Cleveland District, who arrived by plane, train, auto, bus and boat, with 40 members, won the Team Championship. The Midwest Assn. was represented by Emil Mashie, Ray Gerber, Bob Williams and Herman Woehrle. The Turf Symposium presented at Michigan State College was exceptionally interesting and informative and alone was well worth the trip to Lansing.

Bob Williams.

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